

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4613

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, CY, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRUS LETTER TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL ON VAROSHA

REF: NICOSIA 1889

1. CYPRUS PERM REP ROSSIDES FORWARDED LETTER REPRODUCED IN
PARA 2 TO SYG WALDHEIM ON JULY 22. LETTER WAS CIRCULATED
FOLLOWING DAY AS A UN DOCUMENT.

2. QUOTE

LETTER DATED 22 JULY 1977 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL

UPON INSTRUCTIONS FROM MY GOVERNMENT, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO DRAW
YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION AND THAT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO A GRAVE UNILATERAL ACTION, REGARDING THE
SITUATION IN CYPRUS, TAKEN BY THE CARRETAKEER GOVERNMENT OF MR.
ECEVIT, IN A MANNER CALCULATED DELIBERATELY TO UNDERMINE ANY
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PROGRESS TOWARDS A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE PRESENT PROBLEM OF
CYPRUS AND FURTHER TO AGGRAVATE AN ALREADY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION.

ACCORDING TO REUTERS' PRESS REPORT FROM ANKARA OF 20 JULY 1977,
THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER, MR. BULENT ECEVIT, AFTER A CABINET
MEETING ON THE SAME DAY, SAID THAT HIS "CARETAKER GOVERNMENT WAS
STARTING PREPARATIONS TO REVIVE THE MODERN SECTION OF

THE CYPRIOT PORT CITY OF FAMAGUSTA, WHICH HAS BEEN CLOSED OFF SINCE THE TURKISH INTERVENTION OF 1974". HE REPORTEDLY ALSO SAID THAT "BECAUSE THE AREA WAS KEPT CLOSED THE IMPRESSION WAS GIVEN THAT TURKEY HAD PUT IT IN DISPLAY WINDOW AS A CONCESSION FOR SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM," ADDING THAT HIS GOVERNMENT "HAD STARTED WORK TO ERASE THIS IMPRESSION" AND THAT HE ASKED DEPUTY PREMIER TURAN GUNES, NOW VISITING CYPRUS, "TO TOUR THE REGION AND START THE PROCESS OF REACTIVATING IT".

THIS ARBITRARY STATEMENT CONSTITUTES A DELIBERATE REVERSAL OF THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AS TO THE ESTABLISHED SITUATION IN THE NEW FAMAGUSTA AREA AFTER THE CEASE-FIRE. UNDER THAT UNDERSTANDING, THE SAID AREA WOULD REMAIN A CLOSED CITY, READY TO BE OPENED FOR THE RETURN OF THE REFUGEES TO THEIR HOMES AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. AS YOUR EXCELLENCY IS WELL AWARE, IT HAS BEEN THE GENERAL EXPECTATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT WOULD TAKE PLACE AS ANKARA'S FIRST POSITIVE STEP AT THE START OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS IN 1975.

THE PRESENT PURPORTED ACTION BY MR. ECEVIT INVOLVES A DELIBERATE DESIGN TO REVERSE THAT UNDERSTANDING, IN A MANNER CALCULATED TO DEPRIVE THE MANY THOUSANDS OF GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES OF THEIR INALIENABLE RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES AND PROPERTIES IN THE FAMAGUSTA AREA. THIS PROVES TURKEY'S BAD FAITH IN HER ASSURANCES TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND OTHER GOVERN-
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MENTS IN THE EFFORT TO MISLEAD WORLD OPINION, RENDERING THUS MANIFEST ANKARA'S INTENT TO PROCEED FURTHER WITH THE ILLEGAL TRANSPLANTING OF POPULATION FROM TURKEY, AS A MEANS OF CHANGING THE DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF THE ISLAND.

THE STRANGE AND UNUSUAL CHARACTER OF MR. ECEVIT'S STATEMENT, EMANATING, AS IT DOES, FROM A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT AND ON THE VERY DAY OF ITS RELINQUISHING OFFICE, SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED IN ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND GRAVE IMPLICATIONS OF EXPANSIONIST POLICY.

ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT AND ON ITS INSTRUCTIONS, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO DENOUNCE IN THE MOST EMPHATIC TERMS THIS IRRESPONSIBLE CONDUCT BY THE CARETAKER GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY, IN FURTHER VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS, THE UNITED NATIONS COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RELEVANT EUROPEAN CONVENTION AS WELL AS THE GENEVA CONVENTION 1949, AND THE FINAL ACT OF THE HELSINKI DECLARATION.

IN DRAWING YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION TO THE AFORESAID PROVOCATIVE DECLARATION, I WISH TO UNDERLINE THAT, IF IT WERE IN ANY WAY TO BE PROCEEDED WITH, ALL PROSPECTS OF PEACEFUL SOLUTION

THROUGH NEGOTIATION WILL BE TOTALLY NEGATED.

IT IS, THEREFORE, EARNESTLY TO BE HOPED THAT IN THE VITAL
INTERESTS OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY THE NEW TURKISH
GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS NOW TAKEN OFFICE, WILL REFRAIN FROM
ENDORISING SUCH IRRESPONSIBLE ACTION, BOUND TO HAVE THE
GRAVEST REPERCUSSIONS.

I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THIS LETTER WERE CIRCULATED AS A
DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

(SIGNED) ZENON ROSSIDES
AMBASSADOR
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
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CYPRUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

UNQUOTE
LEONARD

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
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